

Iowa Society of Healthcare Attorneys Spring Conference



MAY 8
2025

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

As the only statewide organization for health care attorneys, the Iowa Society of Healthcare Attorneys is excited to invite you to its 2025 Spring Conference.

INTENDED AUDIENCE

The program is for hospital and health care attorneys and compliance professionals.

PROGRAM SCHEDULE

7:30 a.m. **Registration**

8 a.m. **Welcome, Opening Remarks and Business Meeting**

Abhay Nadipuram, Chief Legal Officer, Iowa Hospital Association and Michael Chase, Partner, Baird Holm

8:15 a.m. **Federal and State Legislative Update**

Clare Kelly, Chief Government and External Affairs Officer, and Sandra Conlin, Contract Lobbyist, Iowa Hospital Association

This session will review 2025 state and federal legislative actions and proposals that affect Iowa's hospitals and health systems.

9:15 a.m. **The 2025 Antitrust Landscape – Sponsored by Taft**

Peter Deegan, Partner, and Jeanne Cors, Partner, Taft, Chicago

Health care antitrust laws protect competition and consumers by prohibiting price fixing, market allocation, boycotts and improper information exchange. The Department of Justice and the Federal Trade Commission enforce these laws civilly, while the Department of Justice also oversees criminal violations like price fixing. Ongoing litigation highlights the scrutiny of health care practices. Compliance and legal counsel are essential for navigating this complex area.

10:15 a.m. **Break – Sponsored by BrownWinick**

10:30 a.m. **Case Law Update – Sponsored by Finley Law Firm**

Erik Bergeland, Shareholder and Stacie Codr, Shareholder, Finley Law Firm

This session will review various cases that affect hospitals, including important employment matters, certificate of merit decisions and significant medical malpractice actions, including the reversal of a \$97 million verdict in Iowa. Conference registrants will receive summaries of relevant cases.

11:30 a.m. **Lunch**

Noon **General Counsel Panel – Sponsored by Dorsey and Whitney**

Moderator: *Alissa Smith, Partner, Dorsey and Whitney*

Panelists: *Joe Clamon, Associate Vice President for Legal Affairs and Chief Clinical Strategy Officer, University of Iowa Hospital and Clinics, Iowa City; Shari Flowers, General Counsel and Vice President of Compliance, Methodist Jennie Edmundson, Council Bluffs; Deb King, Deputy General Counsel, UnityPoint Health, Des Moines*

This panel will delve into the evolving landscape facing in-house health care general counsels. From navigating regulatory complexities to managing cybersecurity risks, the panel will discuss persistent worries of academic medical center and hospital system general counsels, including compliance, litigation and maintaining alignment with the company's strategic objectives. The panel will also explore the general counsel's expanding role beyond legal matters, engaging in strategic decision-making and advising on nonlegal questions critical to business operations.

1 p.m. Cybersecurity Legal Landscape and Trends: An Interactive Discussion with the FBI – Sponsored by Baird Holm

Michael Chase, Partner, Baird Holm; Robert Kardell, Partner, Baird Holm; and Dean Neubauer, FBI Cyber Task Force, Omaha Field Office, Des Moines Resident Agency

Health care organizations remain a prime target for sophisticated cyberattacks and incidents. What is law enforcement doing about it? Who's going after the bad actors? How can your organization work with law enforcement to investigate and mitigate an incident? Neubauer will include stories from the front lines and offer strategic insights, steps and takeaways for an effective cybersecurity program.

2 p.m. Break – Sponsored by Husch Blackwell

2:15 p.m. Keynote Panel: Department of Inspections, Appeals and Licensing

Moderator: *Heather Campbell, Managing Counsel, Trinity Health and Regional General Counsel, MercyOne*

Panelist: *Larry Johnson Jr., Director and Hema Lindstrom, Medicaid Services Manager, Iowa Department of Inspections, Appeals and Licensing, Des Moines*

This session will feature panelists from the Iowa Department of Inspections, Appeals and Licensing. Topics will include an update on the Department's restructuring, hot topics and a refresher on some "oldies but goodies".

3:15 p.m. Legal Ethics: A Review of This Term's Supreme Court Ethics Opinions – Sponsored by Dentons Davis Brown

Maggie Hanson, Shareholder and Spencer Willems, Associate, Dentons Davis Brown

During each term, the Iowa Supreme Court issues opinions involving disciplinary actions against Iowa attorneys. This presentation will provide an overview of this term's ethics opinions and give guidance on how lawyers can stay compliant with Iowa's Rules of Professional Responsibility.

4:15 p.m. Adjourn

4:30-6 p.m. ISHA Reception | The Continental Lounge, 407 E. Fifth St., Des Moines – Sponsored by All Sponsors

SPEAKERS

Erik Bergeland is a shareholder at Finley Law Firm and a trial lawyer focused on the defense of licensed professionals and health care institutions. Bergeland is president-elect of the Iowa Chapter of the American Board of Trial Advocates, fellow of the Iowa Academy of Trial Lawyers, and a past president of ISHA.

Heather Campbell is managing counsel for Trinity Health and regional general counsel for MercyOne, where she is responsible for all legal matters and counsels the MercyOne board of directors. Before joining MercyOne, Campbell was a partner at Belin McCormick in Des Moines. She received her law degree from Drake University and her bachelor's degree in nursing from Grand View University. She is a licensed registered nurse in Iowa.

Michael Chase is a partner in the health care section at Baird Holm. Chase counsels clients about federal and state regulatory matters, including federal health care fraud and abuse laws, health information privacy, data privacy and security, compliance programs and institutional review board compliance. He is a member of the American Health Lawyers Association, the Healthcare Financial Management Association and the Health Care Compliance Association. Chase studied health care law at St. Louis University and received his master's degree in health administration.

Joseph Clamon is associate vice president for legal affairs, chief legal counsel and chief clinical strategy officer for UI Health Care, overseeing the full range of legal services for UI Health Care and guiding the strategic vision of the clinical enterprise. Clamon came to UI Health Care from UnityPoint Health, where he was in-house counsel. Before his role with UnityPoint Health, he was an attorney with McDermott, Will and Emery, specializing in health law and life sciences. Clamon was a judicial clerk for Judge Michael Melloy of the United States Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit. Clamon is an adjunct assistant professor at the colleges of law and public health at the University of Iowa. He was previously an adjunct professor at Drake University Law School and Drake University College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences. Clamon graduated from the University of Iowa and received his undergraduate degree from the University of Notre Dame. He's a member of the American Health Lawyers Association and the National Association of College and University Attorneys.

Stacie Codr is a shareholder at Finley Law Firm, where she maintains a diverse civil litigation and trial law practice. Codr's practice includes health law, professional liability and malpractice defense, professional licensing, employment law, products and premises liability, personal injury, insurance defense, insurance subrogation and appeals. She dedicates much of her practice to representing hospitals, physicians and other licensed health care providers in defense of civil litigation, compliance, internal and administrative investigations, and complaints. Codr received her bachelor's and law degrees from the University of Iowa.

Sandra Conlin owns and is the CEO of Iowa Policy, a government relations consulting firm in West Des Moines. Conlin has worked in public affairs for over 25 years and has been an independent contract lobbyist at the Iowa Legislature for 16 years. She represents IHA at the Iowa Capitol.

Jeanne Cors is a partner in Taft's compliance, investigations and white-collar defense practice. With 25 years of experience, Cors represents companies and individuals in all stages of white-collar criminal defense, compliance and risk assessment counseling, trials and appeals, and parallel proceedings. She also has experience in health care fraud. She studied at Marquette University, the University of Michigan and Georgetown University Law Center.

Peter Deegan is a former U.S. attorney and criminal chief for the Northern District of Iowa. Deegan is now a partner at Taft. For most of his 22 years with the Department of Justice, he was a federal prosecutor specializing in white-collar and business crime, including health care offenses. Deegan now practices in Taft's compliance, investigations and white-collar defense practice group. He practices in Cedar Rapids and Taft's offices in Chicago and Washington, D.C. Deegan earned his bachelor's degree from the University of Notre Dame and his law degree from Wayne State University.

Shari Flowers is general counsel and vice president of compliance for Methodist Jennie Edmunson in Council Bluffs. A veteran lawyer with compliance, health care and legal counsel experience, Flowers joined Methodist in 2017, previously providing health care compliance and legal counsel and advice to business partners and corporate leadership. Before joining Methodist, she was vice president of compliance and ethics, chief compliance officer, senior corporate counsel, and director of strategic business services at Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Nebraska. She graduated from the University of Northern Iowa and Creighton University School of Law.

Maggie Hanson focuses on employment litigation, employment practices, liability insurance defense, and daily and strategic advice to employers. Hanson advises and defends employers, managers and human resources professionals in court, mediation, arbitration and administrative forums, including the Iowa Civil Rights Commission, Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, Occupational Safety and Health Administration, and Iowa Workforce Development. She also advises and counsels employers about minimizing liability and exposure and avoiding litigation by conducting employee training, drafting policies, advising on policy implementation, and reviewing existing policies and procedures for compliance. Hanson received her bachelor's and law degrees from the University of Iowa.

Larry Johnson Jr. is the director of the Iowa Department of Inspections, Appeals and Licensing, appointed by Gov. Kim Reynolds in 2019. Previously, Johnson was the state public defender and legal counsel to the governor and lieutenant governor in 2015. Before working in government, he was in the private sector at a Des Moines law firm, where he practiced federal and state administrative law. Johnson received his bachelor's degree from the Krannert School of Management at Purdue University and his law degree from Creighton University.

Robert Kardell is an attorney whose practice focuses on cyber-breach incident response, legal and technology-based risk management solutions, technology and cyber defense policy and protections, intrusion remediation, and fraud prevention and investigation. Kardell has over 22 years of experience working for the FBI as a special agent, supervisory special agent and program coordinator for public corruption, complex financial crime, health care fraud and domestic terrorism. He received his bachelor's degree from Benedictine College and Harvard University, and his MBA and law degree from the University of Nebraska.

Clare Kelly is IHA's chief government and external affairs officer. Kelly leads the advocacy team's policy development and advocacy strategy at the state and federal levels of government and oversees the association's marketing and communications team. Before joining IHA in August 2023, she was health policy adviser to Gov. Kim Reynolds, CEO of the Iowa Medical Society. She spent 12 years in Washington, D.C., working in government affairs and child health policy for children's hospitals. Kelly graduated from the University of Iowa.

Deb King has been with UnityPoint Health for 23 years and has been the health system's deputy general counsel since 2013. King previously was senior counsel for Catholic Health Initiatives and held positions with the law firms of Dorsey and Whitney in Des Moines and Shook, Hardy and Bacon in Kansas City, Missouri. She received her bachelor's degree in finance from the University of Iowa Tippie College of Business and her law degree from the University of Iowa. King is a member of the American Health Lawyers Association.

Hema Lindstrom has worked for the Iowa Department of Inspections, Appeals and Licensing since 2000. With a strong health and safety background, Lindstrom has worked across multiple areas, including her current role with acute and continuing care and Medicare services. Her role oversees Medicare providers in critical health care sectors, such as hospitals, end-stage renal disease treatment centers, ambulatory surgical centers, home health agencies, hospice care, outpatient rehabilitation services and rural health clinics. Lindstrom earned her bachelor's degree from Iowa State University.

Dean Neubauer is a special agent with FBI Omaha and works out of the Des Moines Resident Agency. Neubauer is on the cyber squad and works on computer intrusion, cyber cases and computer forensics supporting other squads. Before joining the FBI in 2020, he worked in the information technology field for 10 years in implementation consulting, systems administration and information security engineering.

Alissa Smith is a partner in Dorsey and Whitney's health group and represents health systems, hospitals, pharmacies, long-term care providers, home health agencies, medical practices, and nonprofit and municipal organizations. Smith's regulatory practice includes interpreting and applying state and federal fraud and abuse laws, Medicare and Medicaid rules, tax-exemption and privacy laws, EMTALA laws, licensing and employment laws, governmental audits and open meeting matters. She also helps with corporate and health system governance issues and hospital-provider relations.

Spencer Willems focuses on general litigation, commercial and criminal defense, and employment and labor law. Willems advises employers on discrimination and other work-related claims made by current and former employees and defends them before the Iowa Civil Rights Commission and in court. He also works frequently with organizations in highly regulated industries, like health care and higher education, to comply with emerging regulations. Willems has experience guiding clients through the remediation process if compliance issues arise. He received his bachelor's degree from the University of Missouri-Columbia and his law degree from Drake University.



REGISTRATION

Register online at www.ihaonline.org | For information on student membership, email Tori Hanson at hansont@ihaonline.org.

- IHA member – \$50
- ISHA member – \$50
- ISHA student member – \$35
- Associate member – \$245
- Non-IHA member – \$245

PROGRAM INFORMATION

IHA Conference Center, 100 E. Grand Ave., Des Moines.

- If you have dietary restrictions or allergies, email iharegistration@ihaonline.org.
- The dress for the conference is business casual. IHA recommends layered clothing for your comfort.
- This is a paperless conference. IHA will email conference materials when available.

CONTINUING EDUCATION

This IHA program has been approved for 7.0 hours of state continuing legal education credits and 1.0 hours of ethics credit in Iowa (424157) and Nebraska (269095).

LODGING

IHA has a discounted corporate rate that attendees can use for overnight accommodation. The discounted rate is offered to IHA event attendees on “non-last room” availability, meaning there are times when this rate will not be available because of high demand. Book early if you think you may need arrangements. When calling, please reference the corporate ID:

[Staybridge Suites Des Moines](#)

Corporate rate: \$139/night plus taxes
515-280-3828
Corporate ID No.: IXNR

[Downtown Des Moines AC Marriott](#)

Corporate rate: \$177/night plus taxes
515-518-6060
Corporate ID Code: 3QR

CANCELLATION/REFUND POLICY

- Cancellations and substitutions are welcome anytime. Email cancellations and substitution requests to iharegistration@ihaonline.org.
- IHA will refund cancellations received 10 or more business days before the conference.
- IHA will charge a \$50 administrative fee to cancellations received six to nine business days before the conference.
- IHA will not refund cancellations received five or fewer business days before the conference.
- IHA will calculate refunds by the date received and the IHA business days remaining before the conference.
- IHA may cancel the conference because of low enrollment. If so, IHA will notify preregistered participants and provide full refunds.

ADA POLICY

IHA does not discriminate in its educational programs based on race, religion, color, sex or disability. IHA wishes to ensure it does not exclude, deny services, segregate or treat anyone with a disability differently from others because of the absence of auxiliary aids and services. If you need auxiliary aids or services identified in the Americans With Disabilities Act to attend this conference, call IHA at 515-288-1955 or write to the IHA Education Department.